

Member of Congress. A tribute she would love to hear was that of Cardinal Keeler, who referred to her as Regina, a queen, at her funeral Mass.

She was active in the Red Cross, the YWCA, the Salvation Army, and of course the Catholic Church and the Democratic Party. But most of all she was a darling Mommy. My brothers, former Mayor Thomas III, Nicholas, Hector, Joseph and Franklin Roosevelt D'Alesandro and I all cherished her every day of her life. She took great joy in her family and her treasures were her children, her 16 grandchildren and her eight great grandchildren.

The role of mother was what she considered most important. She assembled the following tribute to her mother in 1952:

MOTHER—DEDICATED TO MY MOTHER AND ALL  
MOTHERS, LIVING AND DEAD

Mother, I think of you, Guardian Angel of my childhood. Who can fathom the real meaning of the word Mother? Whose hearts are not filled with the memory of her, who has not stopped loving us from the first moment of our existence, when like a ray of sunshine she beamed down into our cradles! When the fingers of care and worry had not yet touched our hearts, it was Mother who was always around preventing their entrance into the holy island of Childhood.

Motherhood cannot be understood. It has its overtones in all languages; like magic it weaves a pattern full of joys, tears, patience, love—each exalting like the music of golden bells.

Even when the word is spoken by an old man it sounds as if it comes from the lips of a child. To try to explain we must listen to our hearts as well as our minds. Mother teaches us to walk and play; to talk and pray. She knows the joys of happiness, she knows the sorrows of worry, care, and heartache. Mother is a beautiful person; when everything else in the world may change, she alone remains the same. Others may love us; but she knows us, understands us, and will forgive us whatever we may do. Mother is truly the living example of Child's sublime Sermon on the Mount, for she has Fed the Hungry, Given Drink to the Thirsty, Clothed the Poor, Visited the Sick, Buried the Dead, Taught the Ignorant, and has given Solace to the Sorrowful. In a few words Mother is God's Co-helper, and a radiant beam from that Mother of all Mercy.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR.  
ULYSSES MASON, JR.

**HON. LOUIS STOKES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, recently, the Greater Cleveland community mourned the passing of Dr. Ulysses Mason, Jr., a highly respected local physician. Dr. Mason passed away on May 13, 1995, at the age of 86. During his lifetime, he was not only an outstanding doctor, but he was an individual who was committed and fought to achieve racial justice.

Dr. Mason began his rise to prominence in 1938 when he scored third among the 112 doctors who passed the Ohio medical examination. Early in his career, Dr. Mason fought for the establishment of a nonsegregated medical facility where patients could be admitted without reference to color. His dream became reality with the formation of Forest City Hospital. When the hospital opened its doors

in 1957, it was the first facility in the city to offer black doctors full participation in its operation.

Mr. Speaker, as a result of the Dr. Mason's efforts, racial barriers in other hospitals eroded, and black physicians were placed in medical settings where they could learn and grow. During his career, Dr. Mason also served as president of the medical staff at MetroHealth, becoming the first black physician in the area to hold such a post.

We will remember Dr. Mason as an individual who paved the way so that others could achieve in the field of medicine. For many years prior to my coming to the U.S. Congress, Dr. Mason served as my physician. He was an individual who was devoted to his work and the community. I recall that he also gave freely of his time and energy.

Mr. Speaker, just recently the Plain Dealer newspaper highlighted Dr. Mason's contributions to our community. I want to share the newspaper article with my colleagues. I also take this opportunity to again extend my condolences to Dr. Mason's wife, Melbahu, and his family. He was a doctor and civil rights pioneer who will never be forgotten.

[From the Plain Dealer, May 17, 1995]

DR. ULYSSES MASON, CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST  
(By Richard Peery)

CLEVELAND.—Dr. Ulysses G. Mason Jr. was a highly regarded physician who fought for racial justice. He led the formation of Forest City Hospital to provide a place where black physicians and patients would be welcome without consideration of color. The hospital was open for more than 20 years, during which black doctors and patients obtained greater acceptance in other area hospitals.

Dr. Mason died Saturday at Cleveland Clinic Hospital. He was 86.

He was born in Birmingham, Ala. His father, who was also a physician, sent him to public schools in Chicago because of better educational opportunities there.

Dr. Mason graduated from Amherst College in Amherst, Mass., in 1929 and from the medical school of the University of Chicago in 1936.

He served his internship at Cleveland's City Hospital, now MetroHealth Medical Center. He scored third among the 112 doctors who passed the Ohio medical examination in 1938.

Dr. Mason also served a residency in internal medicine at the hospital when the wards and dining rooms for patients and staff were segregated by race. In 1939, he took the first steps toward establishing a new, nonsegregated medical facility "where Negro patients can be admitted without question to color."

He circulated a letter to other black physicians asking for their support. The late Dr. Middleton Lambright Sr. became one of his strongest backers.

"Black doctors didn't have a medical setting they could call their own where they could learn and grow," Dr. Mason said in an interview years later.

Dr. Mason was president of the Forest City Hospital Association when the new hospital opened in the Glenville neighborhood in 1957. The 103-bed modern general hospital was the first in the city to offer black doctors full participation in its operation.

There had been opposition in the black community, including some from the NAACP, because of fears that the hospital would lead to increased segregation in the rest of the medical community. But the opposite occurred. Racial barriers in other hospitals eroded.

Dr. Mason was named president of the medical staff at MetroHealth in 1960. It was said to have been the first such office held by a black doctor at any area hospital other than Forest City.

He also served on the staff of Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Other positions that Dr. Mason held included service on the boards of the Glenville YMCA, Cleveland Academy of Medicine, Cleveland Area Heart Society, Anti-Tuberculosis League and the advisory board of the Maternal Health Association.

He was a clinical instructor and assistant clinical professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine until 1980.

He also served on the board of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Dr. Mason is survived by his wife, Melbahu T.; and sons, Dr. Ulysses G. III of Denver, Bryant S. of New York City and Paul J. of Arlington, Va.

A memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Friday at the Church of the Covenant, 11205 Euclid Ave.

Arrangements are being handled by E.F. Boyd & Son Funeral Home of Cleveland.

## THE FEDERALLY SUPPORTED HEALTH CENTERS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1995

**HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 1995*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I plan to introduce shortly, with Congressman WYDEN of Oregon, the Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act of 1995 and commend the following background and summary of the legislation to the House of Representatives.

THE FEDERALLY SUPPORTED HEALTH CENTERS  
ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1995

EXTENDING MALPRACTICE COVERAGE FOR  
HEALTH CENTERS UNDER THE FEDERAL TORT  
CLAIMS ACT

### *Background*

Community, migrant and homeless health centers are eligible for coverage for medical malpractice under the Federal Tort Claims Act [FTCA]. Health centers were brought under the FTCA in 1993 by the Federally Supported Health Centers Assistance Act of 1992. Health centers are covered for malpractice claims in the same manner as employees of the Public Health Service who provide medical care. The law provided this coverage for health centers for a three-year "demonstration" period, which expires December 31, 1995.

Private malpractice insurance is a significant expense for health centers. Prior to the enactment of FTCA coverage, health centers spent \$60 million of their federal grant funds each year for private malpractice coverage. Health centers covered under the FTCA has saved an estimated \$14.3 million in malpractice insurance costs over the past two years—funds which were channelled back into patient care to serve an estimated 75,000 additional clients.

During the last two years, FTCA coverage for health centers has been only partially implemented. Final regulations were only recently issued on May 8, 1995. This lengthy period of uncertainty regarding the law's scope has made it necessary for many health centers to continue their private malpractice coverage. To date, 542 health centers have been "deemed" by HHS for malpractice coverage under FTCA, and 119